

## **\$150 Million Ethanol Plant Proposed For Corunna**

E85 Incorporated (E85 Inc), an ethanol company based in Washington State, has entered into a land purchase-option for the purpose of constructing a proposed 100-million gallon/year state-of-the-art ethanol production facility in the City of Corunna.

The 150 million dollar development would be located on 130 acres of industrial property along Parmenter Road within the Corunna city limits. Over 150 jobs would be created during a one year construction process, and approximately 48 full-time positions would be created to operate the facility. The plant would have an estimated annual payroll of two million dollars.

“The State of Michigan is a great location for our plant due to its strategic co-location with corn producers and the dairy industry, and close proximity to major fuel-ethanol markets. Through the efforts of the City of Corunna and Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership we are moving very quickly on this project. Given the community's continued support and that of so many other agencies at the state and local level, we feel certain we will be able to have our facility up and running in the second half of 2008. It is a long process from site selection to operation, but the team working with us is making it a smooth, timely process. We are very excited at the prospect of being a valued member of the local community.” said E85 Inc. Senior Vice President and Director Mark Dassel.

E85 Inc. is planning to build ten 100-million gallon/year ethanol production facilities across the United States and intends to become a major producer and distributor of renewable ethanol motor fuels. E85 Inc. is affiliated with Sterling Infotech Group, a diversified multinational corporation organized in India in 1988.

“This proposed development is a home run for the local economy, in terms of jobs, tax base and a new market for our farmers,” said Justin Horvath, Director of the Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership which worked closely with city officials over the past several months to help the company select the site. “What a great way to start out the new year for both the City of Corunna and Shiawassee County!”

“We are excited about having our community make it to this point of consideration. It would be a source of pride to the community to be a small part of the nation’s push to reduce our dependence on foreign oil, develop alternative and more environmentally friendly energy sources, and reduce our federal trade deficit. Many positive benefits to our region could be realized directly and indirectly from this and other rural economic development initiatives.” Corunna City Manager Joe Sawyer said.

“City management, staff, elected officials, boards, commissions and volunteers have all been working extremely hard over the past five years to improve the future of our community. This announcement is a testament to their work ethic, talent and vision. We have reached a major milestone in having our site proposed, and now begin a new phase involving public participation, permitting issues, economic incentives, utilities development and other official considerations by the City of Corunna and E85 Inc.” said Corunna Mayor Steve Corey.

A town hall informational meeting will be scheduled in the upcoming weeks. For on-line information, including frequently asked questions and links, please visit the City of Corunna web site at [www.corm.us](http://www.corm.us). Additional questions may be emailed to [e85@corm.us](mailto:e85@corm.us), directed to the City of Corunna at (989) 743-3650, or to the Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership at (989) 723-5149.